



National Lieutenant Governors Association

PRESS ADVISORY

February 17, 2015

For Immediate Use

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HOW OFTEN DO SECONDS-IN-COMMAND SUCCEED TO GOVERNOR?

New research on gubernatorial succession is at www.nlga.us

A new research piece is available which answers the question: How often do seconds-in-command succeed to governor? The National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) today released “Gubernatorial Succession Data: 1980 – current.”

Tomorrow, on February 18, 2015, the third second-in-command this decade is slated to succeed to governor. Oregon Secretary of State Kate Brown will succeed to governor upon the effective date of the governor’s resignation. Oregon State Treasurer Ted Wheeler will become the new second-in-command. “The previous two gubernatorial successions between January 1, 2010, and today were in North Dakota and West Virginia,” said NLGA Director & CEO Julia Hurst.

“Between January 1, 2000, and December 31, 2009, twenty-two (22) gubernatorial successions occurred,” said NLGA Associate Director Michael Conway. That tally includes the “Five-Governors-in-a-Day” experience in New Jersey as one succession. “The successions across this decade occurred in every region in the country,” he said.

Between January 1, 1990, and December 31, 1999, nine (9) gubernatorial successions occurred.

“When Secretary Brown succeeds, she will become the ninth (9th) current governor who first served as Lieutenant Governor or first in line of gubernatorial succession,” said Hurst. “These include the governors of Iowa, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, and West Virginia,” she said.

The research is posted in its entirety at www.nlga.us.

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*NLGA is the only association serving all state and territorial officials
who are first in line of gubernatorial succession.*